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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/696,568	10/30/2003	Yuji Sugimoto	03-038	5919
23400	7590	06/27/2006	EXAMINER	
POSZ LAW GROUP, PLC 12040 SOUTH LAKES DRIVE SUITE 101 RESTON, VA 20191			LIEU, JULIE BICHNGOC	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2612	

DATE MAILED: 06/27/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/696,568

Applicant(s)

SUGIMOTO ET AL.

Examiner

Julie Lieu

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11 April 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 2 and 4-7 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 2, and 4-7 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. This Office action is in response to Applicant's RCE filed April 11, 2006. Claim 1 has been amended. Claim 3 has been canceled.

2. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. Claims 1-7 are again rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over JP-A-8-216735 (cited by the applicant).

Claims 1-7:

The vehicle meter unit disclosed in the JP'735 patent meets all the claimed limitation of claims 1-7, except the location of the radio receiver. Nonetheless, the shift of location of part to achieve an optimal result would not be considered an inventive step because it is within the knowledge of a skilled artisan to improve a radio frequency system by reducing or eliminating noise to achieve the desired result.

Applicant's arguments

4. Applicant has argued that the Japanese publication fails to disclose or suggest the claimed feature of claim 1 and pointed out in particular that it fails to disclose that the high-frequency signal source is a communication unit or intercommunicating with an external network. The Applicant further has asserted that the combination of the high-frequency signal source and the radio receiver is not disclosed in the reference.

Response to Applicant's arguments

5. Applicant's arguments have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

It is submitted that reference does disclose the claimed feature of claim 1, except of the location of the radio receiver. However, the concept of mounting a RF circuitry of an RF receiver/transmitter on the opposite side of a circuit board to avoid interference between the high frequency signal device such as a digital signal processing circuitry which uses high frequency clock signal and the RF circuit is very old and conventional in the art. This is evidenced in the Pressler et al. patent, provided herein for Applicant's reference. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art to mount the radio receiver of JP'735 on the opposite the circuit board for the same reason which is well known.

In response to applicant's argument particularly regarding the high-frequency signal source, it is submitted that a high-frequency signal source which is a communication unit for intercommunicating with an external network is included in the JP'735 system as admitted by Applicant as stated in the specification page 2 line 5 et seq. Therefore, the combination of a

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radio receiver (referred to as receiving circuit of keyless unit 30) and a high frequency signal source is disclosed in the reference.

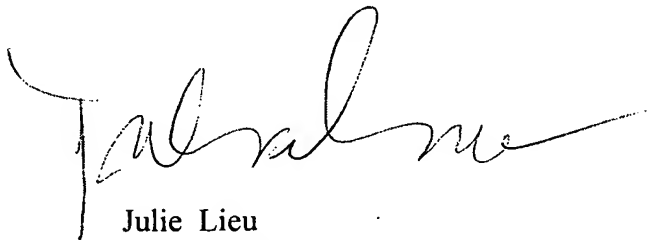
For the above reason the rejection is maintained.

Conclusion

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Julie Lieu whose telephone number is 571-272-2978. The examiner can normally be reached on MaxiFlex.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Horabik can be reached on 571-272-3068. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Julie Lieu
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2612

Jun 08, 06